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Provoans Look Death In the Face

By DOUG WILKS
Herald Staff Writer

A Provo family escaped serious injury Saturday morning after looking death in the face when a semi-truck rolled on its side and skidded into their eastbound Jeep in Provo Canyon.

Joseph and Lynette Draper, 251 S. 1000 E., Provo, were heading back to Provo from Heber City when they saw the truck coming right at them.

"We turned the corner there by the (Claimjumper) Steak House and saw that its trailer was tipping. We slowed down, about to a stop and the trailer kept tipping and turning," said Lynette, 8½ months pregnant.

She said the jeep, driven by her husband and carrying 3-year-old son Derrek, left skid marks of measuring approximately 20 feet before crashing into the trailer head on. It pushed the jeep back 25 feet, crushing the front end, but leaving the Drapers with only bumps and bruises.

The driver of the truck, Lyle Runhaue and driving partner Mike Berto, both of Wisconsin, were treated for minor injuries at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center and released.

They were heading east carrying a load of cantaloupes. It was the first of two Saturday accidents involving trucks carrying cantaloupes through the canyon.

The Drapers returned to Provo, dropped their jeep off to be repaired and contemplated the near-disasterous accident.

Lynette said if her husband had veered to the right instead of simply slowing down and hitting the trailer-part of the truck head on, they could have been knocked into Provo River. Veering to the left could have caused a much more serious accident, she said.

"We were just really lucky," she said.

Lynette said her son only received a bump on the head and their appear to be no complications with her unborn baby.

No one was cited in the mishap.



Dennis Patterson Photo

A Provo family escaped serious injury after colliding with this truck and trailer on its way over the roadside.

Count Mounts Past 2,000

sketchy. Unofficial accounts spoke of hundreds killed in less densely populated areas closer to the epicenter of the quake, including in the states of Colima, Guerrero, Jalisco and Michoacan.

A government spokesman placed the death toll at 2,000, but agreed with others that the full extent of the casualties and damage could not be assessed.

U.S. Ambassador John Gavin

told reporters he believed the death toll would climb. He noted that 1,000 people may have been killed or injured in just one high-rise apartment complex in the Nuevo Leon neighborhood.

Greg Lagana, spokesman for the State Department Earthquake Task Force in Washington said three Americans were killed. He identified them as Mary Vallejos and her two children, of Nebraska.

a heart attack. I felt dizzy. Everything was shaking. Doors and drawers were opening and closing by themselves," said Frank Solano, 42, who was in his 18th floor hotel room.

"No question ... it was the scariest thing I had ever been through," he said after returning home Friday. "I was just praying the building held together — it felt like a bowl of jelly."

Cindy Glander of New Milford, Conn., was in the Mexico City airport.

0 Miles

Out of the nearly 800 Boy Scouts and others attempting to walk 50 miles in 20 hours or less this weekend, only 284 crossed the finish line Saturday at Provo's Memorial Park, at 800 East Center Street.

But Bruce Heintz, district commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America Squaw Peak District (serving scouters in Orem), says the two-day event was memorable for all participants whether or not they actually finished the hike.

The all-night event started Friday evening with participants, age 8 to 78 walking — some even running — west on Salt Lake's 800 South Street then south on State Street until they turned east at Provo's Center Street, finishing up at Memorial Park.

Carol Heintz, chairman of the 50/20 hike (50 miles in 20 hours) and the wife of Bruce Heintz, was pleased with annual event. "I really feel good about this year's 50/20. Those who helped put it together were so good to work with."

Bruce Heintz said, while the 50/20 is sponsored by scouters, it was opened to any participant.

Hikers and families from as far away as Price and Tootle participated, he said.

Heintz said the oldest participant was 78 and the oldest finisher was 55. One runner finished the 50 miles in nine hours, but Heintz estimated the average time was about 16 hours.

One participant was struck by a vehicle, but did not require hospitalization, Heintz said.

The majority of participants who did not finish started dropping out between 30 to 35 miles in Lehi and American Fork. Support vehicles picked stragglers and help supply water and first aid such as blister control, Heintz said.

The scout executive says the event has numerous displays of scouts and leaders helping and urging participants. "It builds close associations and provides opportunities for sacrifice," he says.

Story:

Patrick Christian

SPY: W. Europeans Puzzled With Influx

(Continued from Page 1)

British officials said the expulsions would affect relations between London and Moscow for some time to come.

Since early August, an equally sensational spy affair involving Communist East German agents has humiliated the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.

But Bonn officials strenuously emphasize that the scandal, in which seven suspected East German agents have been arrested or defected, will not permanently harm improving relations with East Germany.

"Our contacts with (East Germany) are continuing and will continue," said chief government spokesman Friedhelm Ost.

The West German spy scandal includes the defection Aug. 19 to East Germany of Hans-Joachim Tiedge, the counter-intelligence agent once in charge of tracking East German spies.

Heribert Hellenbroich, the West German spy chief fired after Tiedge's defection, said in an interview: "Of course, spies cause damage. But in Tiedge's case, West Germany's allies weren't affected, because Tiedge was dealing with other areas."

Lt. Col. Joseph Purka, spokesman at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, said of the Tiedge case on Aug. 29: "At the present time there is no indication that this incident poses any threat to NATO secrets."

However, NATO sources say West Germany's long history of spy scandals makes other alliance partners cautious in sharing intelligence information with Bonn.

West Germany's opposition Social Democrats have called for the dismissal of Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann for allegedly mishandling the spy affair.

Investigators still are trying to unravel the various threads linking the spies in Europe.

West German security officials say a secretary in President Richard von Weizsaecker's office who was arrested Aug. 24 had links to an East German couple arrested on spy charges five days later in Switzerland.

There is speculation — denied in Bonn — that Tiedge's defection may have triggered the defection of KGB chief Gordievski in London.

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